

# THE VILLAGE VOICE

Issue No 10 Volume 16

Lanchester, October 2015

For contact information, see page 2

## VILLAGE HAS LOST DIRECT BUS TO NEWCASTLE

Lanchester no longer has a direct bus service to Newcastle. From 25th October, passengers for Newcastle will have to change buses at Stanley. GoNorth East say "Earlier in the year, we consulted upon a number of proposed changes to services. Nearly 3,000 responses were received during this consultation period, which gave valuable feedback to the proposals, all of which was taken into account before plans were finalised. These changes are designed to provide more fast, frequent and reliable services."

We wonder why the village newspaper, the Parish Council and the Lanchester Partnership were not informed about



*One of the new Venture buses that travellers to Newcastle will have to use to get to Stanley. These are newer buses with more comfortable seating and next stop announcements.*

this consultation. The closure of the direct link to the area's largest city is of major importance to people of Lanchester. Go North East say "At

Stanley Bus Station, services are timed to arrive and depart at similar times, making interchange between services simple and

straightforward." But what happens if a bus is delayed as often happens in city traffic? Passengers returning from Newcastle may have to wait up to 30

minutes to get a connection to Lanchester.

It is true that the Stanley to Newcastle service has been improved as it is now a 15 minute service but this is at the loss of Lanchester's direct link. For your information to get to Newcastle you need to catch the new Venture 30 bus to Stanley which is scheduled to run every 30 minutes and comes into stand F. Transfer to stand J for the X30, X31 or X32 which are now called 'ToonLink' to Newcastle. On the plus side, there are now 9 buses a day on Sunday for the 15A service to Durham or Consett instead of the previous 8 and the service now departs at a regular hourly time.

## BARCLAYS BANK FINALLY CLOSES



*Kim and Hilary, Barclays, Lanchester, turn the key in the lock for the last time.*

Many people will miss having a bank in the village and will have the inconvenience of travelling to Consett, Stanley or Durham if they need to visit the bank. However, many villagers will miss the staff more than the bank! Kim Gourlay and Hilary McKay have worked on

the counter for 14 and 15 years respectively. They have always been efficient, kind and helpful to their customers and they didn't need Barclays training for that - it always came naturally. Both Kim and Hilary felt it was a privilege to work in Lanchester with so many lovely customers and are

very sad that the bank is closing and they will be moving on. Kim will be transferring to Consett Branch, while Hilary will have to travel to Durham, to Barclays in the Market Place.

Whilst at Lanchester they have both worked through several floods, which has entailed coping with

various problems, including one occasion where Kim tried to unblock a drain filled with leaves, with her bare hands. On the positive side it has been a delight to be involved in fundraising for local charities for which Barclays have given matched funding. Organisations which have

benefited from this are as follows: Willow Burn Hospice, Lanchester Partnership, British Red Cross, All Saints' Primary School, St Bede's Catholic School and Sixth Form College.

The bank closed at midday on Friday 23rd October along with the closure of the ATM machine.

The Village Voice Page 1



*Martins Bank before Barclays took over.*



# Dear Village....

The views expressed in letters to the editor are not necessarily those of the newspaper, the editor or persons working for the newspaper. The editor retains the right to cut or amend any letter published. Letters must contain your name, address and telephone no, all of which may be withheld at your request.

Dear Village Voice

In early January, I paid DCC £50 to have my garden waste bin emptied in 2015-2017. At the time, I suggested that, in order to better accord with the gardening season, perhaps collection dates could be delayed from March-October to April-November. I was informed that other garden bin holders had suggested later collections also. However, the last collection was made on 14th October which is too early. So I have written to the Council, versing my opinion.

*The brown bin pick-ups end too soon,*

*A later lift would be a boon.*

*Marigolds still line the drive,*

*Flowering fuchsias yet survive.*

*Stubborn leaves cling to the trees,*

*Undisturbed by autumn's breeze.*

*When, at last, the leaves do fall,*

*The bin men will no longer call.*

If anyone agrees and would like later collections, please write to or telephone Corporate Complaints Unit, DCC, County Hall, Durham, DH1 5UQ, 03000 269 007. Fred Heppell

Dear Village Voice

We would like to say a huge thank you to everybody who sponsored us at this year's Great North Run. Our initial target was £700 but we have managed to raise a staggering £2528 to date for Pancreatic Cancer UK in memory of a special Husband, Dad, Son

and friend, Philip Massey, who we lost in 2004 due to this cruel disease.

We would like to thank everybody for their support, kindness and generosity in helping us to raise an amazing total for a special charity which is so close to our hearts.

If you wish to donate please log on to: <http://www.justgiving.com/kathryn-massey-allen>

Many thanks

Kathryn Massey-Allen, Kevin Allen and Joseph, Sam and Grace

Dear Village Voice

On 25th September my mother (Betty Calland) and I held an afternoon tea for Macmillan. There were homemade cakes, homemade marmalade, homemade crab apple jelly and plants for sale, also we had loads of prizes to raffle. We were lucky the weather was kind to us and a good time was had by all. Mam and I would like to say a big thank you to family and friends who came and supported us and of course Macmillan and helped us to raise a staggering total of £410. Betty Calland and Ann Rowe

## THE VILLAGE VOICE

## IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE

Dear Village Voice

Kim and Hilary, from Barclays Bank Lanchester, wish to thank all customers, past and present, for their much valued custom and support over the years.

It has been a privilege to have been of service and to have been so much a part of the community. Words don't truly

express our appreciation for all the cards, wonderful gifts and kind wishes we have received; it has been amazing, heart-warming and brought more than a few tears.

We wish you all well for the future and look forward to seeing you in our new branches.

Love from  
Kim and Hilary

Dear Village Voice

On Friday 16th October one of our cats was seriously unwell. The alarm was raised by the person who delivered the 'Advertiser' paper, one neighbour identified the cat and another took her to the vets for immediate medical care.

It seems that the person who first discovered the cat stayed with her for some time to comfort her and keep her warm until help could be raised. I'd like to express my gratitude to all of those involved in her care,

particularly this lady, who we are yet to identify.

I am so grateful that we live in a neighbourhood which helps one another, even their pets. Sadly the cat, Twinkle, died 2 days later but it was a great comfort to know that she received medical attention as soon as possible and her distress was minimal.

If you are our mystery Good Samaritan then thank you for all of your help.

Linda Petrie  
Ashdown Grove

### COMMUNITY DRAW

The winning number in the Community Draw for September is 17. The draw was made by Jenny Robson of the 50+ Exercise Group..

### How to contact the Village Voice

#### To advertise:

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# DIAMOND WEDDING CELEBRATION

On 15th October, Jimmy and Doreen Maguire celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary surrounded by family and friends at their home in Valley Grove. A wonderful celebration tea was provided by their two daughters and daughter-in-law.

Doreen was born in Lanchester and met Jimmy, from Templetown, at a local dance. They married in All Saints' Church and held their reception in the Blue Bell. They honeymooned in Scotland, before returning to Lanchester where they have lived in Railway Cottages, Victoria Terrace, Deneside and now Valley Grove.

Doreen has lived in Lanchester all her life and started work in the village and did a variety of jobs before working in Shotley Bridge Hospital from where she retired.

Jim, on returning from National Service in the Army, started as a stoker on the railway which ran on the Lanchester line and had a period as an HGV driver, then a Consett bus driver until retirement.

They have three children, Maureen, Brian and Margaret, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, who were all there on the day. Their day began with the delivery of the Message of Congratulations from the

Queen. They then went for coffee to the local garden centre, whilst grand-daughters Annemarie and Julie decorated the bungalow ready for the afternoon arrival of guests. Throughout the day a steady stream of well wishers arrived to join them on their special day. We are so proud of our parents for reaching this wonderful milestone and hope they have many more happy years ahead.

PS - We found it quite difficult to find anything related to Diamond Wedding so a big THANK YOU goes to the 2 ladies from Weigh & Save (Kath and Helen) in Consett, who sourced items relevant to this quite rare Anniversary!!!



*Doreen and Jimmy Maguire celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary*



*Doreen and Jimmy cutting the cake at their wedding*

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# LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

## Notes from the meeting held on Tuesday 13th October 2015

### Minutes

Ordinary Meeting on 8th September 2015 - approved.

Finance Committee Meeting on 30th September 2015 - approved.

**Vice Chair** - Resolved that Keith Harrison be appointed as a second Vice Chair for the remainder of the year.

**Neighbourhood Warden Report - August** - discussed and received.

**PACT Report** - discussed and received.

### Correspondence

1. Clerk & Councils Direct - September issue received.

2. County Durham & Cleveland County Training Partnership - Code of Conduct and Standards Training - Members to inform the Clerk if they wish to attend.

3. Letter - request to install a small wall greenhouse at side of garage at Hurbuck Cottages - agreed that permission be given as long as the greenhouse is within the footprint of the existing agreement.

4. Durham County Council - consultation - Article 4 Houses in Multiple Occupation and Interim Student

Policy - information received.

5. County Durham Association of Local Councils - AGM papers received.

### Area Action Partnership and Parish Councils Committee

An increased contribution towards the purchase of fly-tipping cameras was agreed.

Members considered the updated 'Your Village Your Voice' action plan from the Area Action Partnership and agreed to send any comments to the Clerk.

### Neighbourhood Plan

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. Mike Wardle provided Members with an update. The second topic based questionnaire is almost finalised and will be distributed at the end of January. The Conservation Area Appraisal, led by the County Council, is ongoing with input from volunteers. The North of England Civic Trust has been appointed to assist with the production of a Heritage Audit which will probably commence in November.

### Parking Working Group

The minutes of the first meeting were approved. Paul Jackson provided information on the work of the group.

### Dementia Friends - Training Session

Members were informed that a Dementia Friends training session has been arranged for Tuesday 17th November at 6.30 pm at Lynwood House. The training will be delivered by Dementia Friends Champions who are trained and supported by the Alzheimer's Society. The session will provide information about dementia and how to create dementia friendly communities. The training session will be open to members of the community to attend.

**Maintenance Report** - received. Thanks were passed to the Handyperson for his work.

**Financial report** - discussed and approved.

**Accounts for Payment** - approved.

The next Ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 10th November 2015 at 7.15 pm at Lynwood House.

## LANCHESTER COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2015

I am pleased to tell you that our insurance claim of almost £4,000 has been settled and all of the damaged doors and the equipment stolen in the recent burglary have been replaced. The amount received from the insurance company will cover the cost of the stolen equipment, but we have had to spend more on the replacement doors to make the Community Centre more secure. We do have plans to replace all of our external doors as soon as funds become available.

We have purchased a new computer for the administration staff from the £400 grant received from the Mid Durham Area Action Partnership and replaced one of the stolen laptops at a cost of £200. The car park has had some temporary repairs costing £900 but we will need to resurface most of it in the future and indications are that this will cost about £10,000. We have decided not to proceed with extending the Gym at present but we will be purchasing some additional weights and installing them in the existing Gym area.

The introduction of the Living Wage in 2016 is good news for our staff and I am delighted for them. However, as all of our salaries are linked to the minimum wage, this is going to cause us significant financial difficulty in future. We will need to find an additional £2,500 each year. We will do all we can to reduce expenditure, but it is likely that room rates will have to increase by more than the Retail Price Index.

Arthur Maughan, MBE, Chairman



### Vacancies available in Lanchester

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To work under the tutelage of Dr Neil Sullivan, Director of the DGC, to author and post blogs, social media and website content, which helps to market the DGC and the companies within it. This will be a part time/ad hoc role suitable for a bioscience graduate wishing to gain experience in science communication.

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## POLICE REPORT

Our last PACT meeting was held on Tuesday 6th October. Over the past few months local officers have been tackling issues of Antisocial Behaviour within Lanchester village. Through extended patrols, targeting offenders and engaging with the community we are satisfied that these problems have reduced greatly, however we will continue to show a high level of presence in the village to prevent issues escalating again. Colleagues achieved a good result on Friday 16th October when officers attended the rear of The Green School and stopped a group of youths in the process of smoking cannabis. The group were all searched and a 15 year old male was found in possession of a quantity of cannabis. He is currently assisting officers. This action follows an increased volume of intelligence being received regarding drug activity in the village which will continue to be tackled.

Two good court results were achieved this month involving two residents from Lanchester - a male who was stopped driving while disqualified and a female who was stopped driving while under the influence of alcohol. The male was found guilty and

remains disqualified pending test passed, was also issued with an 8 week sentence suspended for 12 months, 6 penalty points on his licence and a fine of £600. The female was also found guilty and has been disqualified from driving until September 2018.

The darker nights are slowly creeping in so now is the time for everyone to be vigilant regarding home security and ensuring everything is locked and secured. In order to help and reassure residents, PCSO Lisa Jackson will be hosting a free bicycle marking event outside Johnson's Newsagents in Burnhope on Sunday 1st November between 2-4pm so please come along. Lisa will also have a quantity of security advice information for the home, sheds and vehicles for residents to take. On Saturday 31st October between 2-4pm Lisa will be hosting a bicycle marking event at Consett Police Station in the Front Office. Everyone who visits and gets their bicycle marked will receive a free set of bicycle lights.

The date of our next PACT meeting is Tuesday 3rd November at 6.30 pm in Burnhope Primary School so please come along if you have any issues you would like to discuss.

**PCSO 6780 Lisa Jackson**

## A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE ...

Parliament resumed on Monday 12th October after a hectic conference season. I returned not just to my role as the MP for North West Durham but also as a new Shadow Education Minister. Having spent 25 years working in education this is a dream role for me. I have never been particularly interested in promotion and would not have taken just any role but to be offered education and to have my expertise recognised is gratifying. Childcare and early years education are not strictly speaking my areas of expertise but then I am probably as expert as anyone else in Parliament given that the Minister I 'shadow' was an investment banker until 2010. It is a bit of a baptism by fire as there is a Childcare Bill about to hit the House of Commons. The Bill began life in the Lords and is expected to reach the Commons in late November/early December. I will be leading on the Bill through 2nd Reading,

Committee and 3rd Reading. The main purpose of the Bill is to provide 30 hours of free child care for working parents of 3 and 4 year olds, which is great. However, as always, the devil is in the detail and it is the detail I will be wanting to see and properly scrutinise.

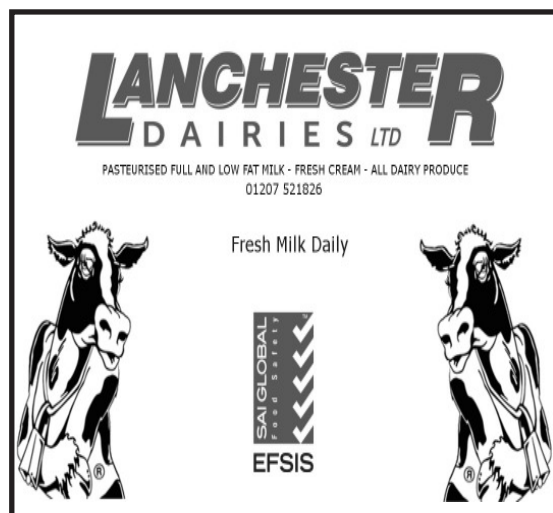
Last month in this article I talked about the refugee crisis in the Mediterranean and the people that I spoke with who are camped at Calais. The seasons seem to have moved on very quickly and we are now in the season of mellow fruitfulness, days are getting shorter and noticeably cooler and winter will soon be upon us. With this in mind I am supporting the Red Cross who are

gathering funds and warm clothing that will be collected and taken to Calais. The Red Cross shop in Lanchester will be accepting donations in the form of money, items that can be sold and the money donated to this cause and warm clothing particularly wool coats, hats, gloves, jumpers, skirts and trousers. Clearly monetary donations are much easier to handle and process but if you can help in any way we would be very grateful, but please specify that you want the donations to go to the refugee crisis. If you have any queries on this Tracey at the Red Cross shop on Front Street, Lanchester, will be happy to help you.

**Pat Glass MP**



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# LANCHESTER ART GROUP EXHIBITION



*Perusing the talents of Margaret Walters are Ann and Rev Peter Sinclair with Jane and Martin Durkin.*

October is a time to look forward to with the Art Exhibition being held at the Community Centre on the Saturday/Sunday 17th/18th of the month.

The exhibition was extremely well attended; this included the refreshment room, where there was a superb selection of cakes and scones to go with tea and coffee. It is quite amazing that the

standards seem to get better each year. Perhaps it is the maturity and experience of the exhibitors which makes this happen. John Gibson and Eileen Baxendale were new to the group and exhibited their works for the first time. Both stands were excellent and enhanced the general display. There were over 30 stands on view for the general public to enjoy and even purchase that special original painting that appealed to them. Membership of the group is currently around the 40 mark. Some tremendous strides have been made since the group first met at the Green School in 1982 with a membership of just seven!

All exhibits indicated what a remarkable talent for art there is within this group! Interesting were the number and variation of tools used. Pastels, oils, water colours, inkintense, coloured pencils and brush markers, or a combination of these were used to complete the many outstanding works of art on display. The effect of seeing several of these implements used on any one stand containing several pictures was dramatic!

Visitors from all over the county came to see the works of these talented, dedicated artists. It is certainly an exhibition not to be missed.



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*Enjoying the works of Ron Blackburn and Thelma Lovett are Malcolm and Christine Armstrong, Mary Charlton, Lesley Anderson and Judy Lowther.*



*Margaret and Lillian Jopling, pointing out something of special interest.*



# LANCHESTER BRASS BAND PATRONS CONCERT

Over the years, Lanchester Brass Band has given many concerts, all of which have been enjoyed and acclaimed by their various audiences. Saturday September 19th was no exception. It was their Patrons' Concert which is held every year in the Methodist Church. All those who attended would agree that it was a very commendable concert. The programme was very varied, some of the favourites being, 'Ticket to Ride' written by John Lennon and Paul McCartney, 'Barnard Castle' a

rousing march, 'Singing in the Rain', 'Down by the Riverside', 'Gresford' - dedicated to the memory of all miners who have perished in the mines and 'Softly as I leave you' which is a beautiful melody and featured James Draper who plays Euphonium as the soloist.

Four special prizes were given out, one of which was a Baton. This was presented to the band by local resident, Norman Peveller, soon after its formation in 1978. Norman was a cornet player and conductor of local Brass



*Mr Steve Robson, conductor, with the band*

Bands. The Baton had been presented to him at a local contest as conductor of the winning band. He was an ardent supporter of the band until his death at over 90 years of age. With Norman's permission it was decided to award the Baton to the player who had made the most significant contribution to the progress of the Band over the previous year. Mrs Susan Hayton was awarded the Baton this year. Other prize winners were Mrs Lesley Wilkinson, Mr Pete Bradshaw and Mr Andrew Hedges.

The Band was conducted on this occasion by a guest conductor, Mr Steve Robson, from Ireshopeburn in Weardale. Also taking part in the concert was Mr Lewis Wilkinson who was the trombone soloist for the piece of music called 'Acrobat'. Lewis has been the Musical Director of the band since 2013 and has brought the band to a new level of confidence and performance, with his expertise, personality, talent and skill. It is with much regret that he has had to

relinquish this role due to increased work commitments, going into his final year of study at Durham University.

The band is hoping that Mr Steve Robson will become their new Conductor. It would be a privilege to have him. Brenda Craddock



*Prize winners (left to right): Susan Hayton, Lesley Wilkinson, Pete Bradshaw and Andrew Hedges.*

## Dave Harris

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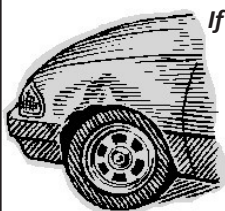
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## ROTARY CRAFT AND FOOD FAIR

This is the first time that the Derwentside Rotary Club has attempted a fundraiser in Lanchester. The event took place in a marquee at the EP School on Saturday and Sunday 17th/18th October. The entrance at the back of the school was used - signposting could have been better.

On entering the school there were four mobile fast food stands selling a good variety of food. The

entrance fee to enter the huge marquee was £2 per head for adults. It was extremely large with a wooden floor and must have contained in the region of approximately 30 stalls. Obviously, due to lack of space, it is impossible to itemize these. The variety of the stalls were more or less equally spread between very good craft tables and high quality food stalls, with some having

alcoholic drinks on display. Certainly at the first morning session the attendance was good which created an excellent atmosphere that encouraged people to buy.

The Fair seemed to be well supported and may result in giving Rotarians an opportunity to establish themselves in the area. Any profits from the event may be reported at a later date.



*Various craft and food stands on display with plenty of people around.*



*A couple of Rotarians perusing the stands.*



*Fiona and Ewen Baxendale with Amanda and Simon Rayner, clearly enjoying the experience.*



## NEW CAUSE FOR HUGH

NEW Signage

NEW Collecting tins and buckets

NEW Member

NEW Club

YES - He's back. Hugh Hall is back fundraising in Lanchester. Hugh, a former Lanchester Lion - remember him and his Radio Cartelling us about the Carnival and Bonfire Night and driver round

the villages for Santa Claus. Remember the Turkey and Tinsel Nights in October with a meal and entertainment for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Now with The Rotary Club of Derwentside he is after our money again. If ladies and gentlemen would be interested in joining and want to hear

about the fun and fellowship and happy times, give Hugh a call on 01207 521408 or visit our website (just search for Derwentside Rotary). Our next event is a 'Bag Pack' at Tesco Annfield Plain on 14th November. Could be very interesting with the change in the law on free plastic bags!



Hugh Hall with an array of collecting tins and buckets

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### Creamy Red Pepper and Butternut Squash Soup

It's October, days are growing shorter and nights becoming a bit chilly. Autumnal weather needs warming home made soups and this one is easy to prepare. It's smooth and thick and has a wonderful colour and taste.

Serves 4, suitable for vegetarians and suitable for freezing.

#### INGREDIENTS

Butter 1oz (25g)

Onion, 1 large, chopped

Butternut squash, 1 medium, peeled, deseeded and chopped into chunks. You'll need roughly 500g (1lb 2oz) when peeled and deseeded.

Red pepper, 1, deseeded and chopped

Vegetable stock cubes, 2, dissolved in 450 ml hot water

Cream cheese, 7oz (200g)

Milk 450ml

Chives 2 tablespoons, chopped

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

#### METHOD

1) Melt the butter in a very large saucepan. Add the onion and fry gently for about 3 minutes, until softened but not browned.  
2) Add the butternut squash, red pepper and vegetable stock. Heat until the mixture starts to simmer then turn the heat to low and cook gently for about 20 minutes, partially covered, until the

vegetables are soft and tender.

3) Transfer the mixture to a blender or food processor and add about half the cream cheese. Blend together for about 15-20 seconds, until completely smooth.

4) Return the mixture to the saucepan and add the milk and half the chives. Stir thoroughly and reheat until piping hot. Taste and adjust the seasoning.

5) Ladle the soup into warmed bowls and top each portion with a dollop of the cream cheese. Sprinkle with the remaining chives and a little extra ground black pepper, then serve.

*Alexander*  
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## FOR 30 YEARS MARK WALKS LANCHESTER STREETS

If in the dark evenings, you happen to see a gentleman in a luminous jacket carrying a large blue bag your eyes are not deceiving you. It's likely to be village resident Mark Watson.

Mark, who lives in Deneside, will be on his regular beat around the village taking and delivering your orders for Betterware. This month he will have completed thirty years as a door to door salesman for the

company which is something of a record. In fact nearly the whole of Mark's working life has been spent with Betterware.

Over the years, Mark has walked literally thousands of miles around the village and has become known personally to countless residents. It is not just about the goods he delivers but the personal contact with the customers, many of whom are elderly or housebound.

Mark's cheery smile and friendly banter have become an important and regular source of contact for many.

His talents do not end there! In recent times Mark has turned his hand to bingo calling at All Saints' Monday Club where he and partner Alison are regular members. His witty bingo calling routines are becoming something of a legend.

Thanks Mark!



Mark Watson

## PIP STOP TEAMS UP WITH HENRY DANCER DAYS

Maiden Law wine store The Pip Stop is set to team up with Lanchester based charity Henry Dancer Days in order to raise money to help families with children fighting cancer. The two will come together on November 12th for a wine walk with all proceeds going to the charity. The evening of wine tasting in the

recently completed quirky renovation will feature everything from bubbly to reds, whites and rosés. "Henry Dancer Days are doing great things in the area and we're delighted to be able to help," said Ben Cleary, manager of The Pip Stop. "We want to get as many people involved as possible to make this event a success

and hopefully make a difference on an issue that affects so many people." Henry Dancer Days was registered in 2012 by Jane Natrass following the death of her son Henry who was fighting Osteosarcoma. The charity provides help and support for anyone under the age of 18 who is facing a battle against Primary

Bone Cancer, as well as putting money into research towards new treatments.

Henry Dancer Days beneficiary Ayman said, "The money that was donated to me by the incredible people of Henry Dancer Days has helped our family immensely. Donating a small amount of money may seem like something insignificant

and unimportant but I would like you all to know that you are helping shine a light of happiness in an incredibly dark and devastating time in someone's life."

Tickets for the event are available from the Pip Stop or by contacting Jane Natrass on 07947 668993. Henry Dancer Days is a registered charity, number: 1147982.

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## HELPING HANDS FROM THE EP SCHOOL

After seeing the plight of so many refugees across Europe, students from Lanchester EP Primary School decided to take an active part in helping in a very practical way. They enlisted the support of family and friends to collect foodstuffs, clothes, toiletries, with toys and books for youngsters, and contacted Steve Watson from Consett and Eddie Bennett from Medomsley, who organised to take the collection by van to central Europe, by way of Calais. Head Teacher Jane Davis invited Steve Watson back into school to give pupils a full report of the journey.

Steve was greeted by the Head Teacher, during this special Act of Worship.



*Steve Watson describes his journey across Europe to deliver aid to refugees*

Jane Davis stressed the school's Christian values of love and compassion and said the students had shown these in their

response to the needs of refugees. Steve described the long drive across the continent and the response of the many

desperate people as the blankets, food and other essential items were distributed in one of the camps. He stressed the

point that although we can't change the world, if we can move just one grain of sand, something has been done.

## LANCHESTER METHODIST JUNIOR CHURCH HELP THE COMMUNITY



Over the last two weeks, our Junior Church has been very busy. First of all we have been taking part in Project Paddington ([www.projectpaddington.com](http://www.projectpaddington.com)) where the aim is that children help children by donating one of their teddy bears to a child who lives in a refugee centre. We have

*Left, one of the junior members helping with the village litterpick.*

been sponsored to do this and the money goes to help the work of the charity Tearfund in the refugee camps.

On 27th September, all three of our Junior Church groups helped to lead our Harvest Festival, and we collected a lot of food for the local food bank in Consett, Food4U.

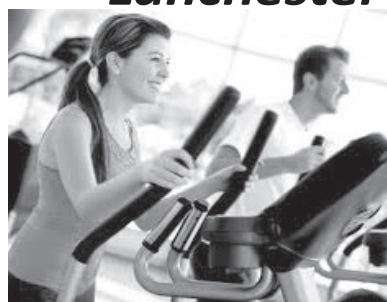
Finally on October 4th lots of the children and their families from our

Junior Church took part in a litterpick around the village. We really enjoyed filling lots of bags with rubbish and making the village look nicer.

We have lots more exciting events planned in the run up to Christmas. Why don't you join us? We meet every Sunday at 10.30 am in the Methodist Church and have different groups covering from age 3 to 17.

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## MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING



*Volunteers serving the coffee at the Macmillan Coffee morning.*

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A Macmillan Coffee Morning was held in the Chapter House of the Parish Church on Friday 25th September. The Macmillan helpers who were present belonged to the Durham 'Not Alone' Volunteer Group which was founded by Jackie Easton two years ago. Jackie Easton, a committed Christian who attends All Saints' Parish Church and has had this distressing illness herself, wanted to help those who have no support because they live alone or have become isolated in some way. Her group, 'Durham Not Alone Volunteer Group' is there to be beside these ladies who are suffering from Breast Cancer. The coffee was served by some of the volunteers and ladies of the Parish Church.

The event was very well attended and the tea, coffee and cakes were perfect. Jackie and fellow volunteer Angela Griffiths were in charge of an excellent raffle and those who won were given their prize in a very pretty gift bag - a lovely idea! It was a lovely morning and the amount raised was well in excess of £500.

Brenda Craddock

## LANCHESTER HISTORY SOCIETY

Lanchester History Society held its AGM on 2nd October. A new committee was voted in and the present committee were thanked for the years of work they had employed in providing interesting talks and events. A very interesting and informative talk with slides then explored the early days of Beamish given by John and Rosie Gall. The subject which could have continued into

the night was curtailed by the cheese and wine and the conclusion of the meeting.

The new small committee led by Marian Morr have an exciting programme of talks and visits for the 2015-2016 year. Meetings will be held in December and January and we invite everyone who is interested in history to come along on the first Friday of the month. For further information, contact 01207 529587.

### Next meeting



*Have you any MALWARE POTTERY?*

November's meeting for the Lanchester History Society is a talk by David Balls and he has asked us to bring along any Malware pottery for discussion though no valuations will be given. Have a look on your shelves and cupboards and we will see you on 6th November at the Community Centre at 7 pm.



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# LANCHESTER PARTNERSHIP CEILIDH

Lanchester Partnership was established in 1999, with the support of the Parish Council, village organisations and residents and since then a great deal of work has been done in many different aspects of our village and community life. Indeed our village would be a very different place without this faithful, committed band of people working tirelessly to make our village the thriving happy community that it is. The following are just a few of at least 24

projects which they have founded and promoted over the years.

- They have funded and run the village bus service, from which so many people have benefited.

- Together with the Parish Council they built a BMX bike track with play equipment at Kitswell Park.

- They have developed a Village Design Statement that is helping us to preserve Lanchester's unique character by preventing inappropriate building. The Design Statement

won a Royal Town Planning Institution award.

- They are developing a large community orchard, integrated with allotments, at Margery Flats.

- Following the 2003 floods, the Partnership persuaded the drainage authorities to survey, repair and carry out a major upgrade of the village drainage systems. Following the terrific rainstorm and floods in 2013, they are now urging the authorities to do more major work.

- They have produced DIAL, a Directory of information about Lanchester.

The Partnership has held a Ceilidh for a number of years in October in the Social Club and this year it was on Saturday October 17th. As always it was a wonderful night enjoyed by everyone who attended. Windy Gyle was the name of the Ceilidh Band and they kept us on our toes, with their skilful playing of instruments. Two members of the band, Anthony Robb

and Paul Knox, played the Northumbrian Pipes very skilfully for us and Anthony gave a rendering of 'Keep your feet still Geordie Hinny' inviting us to join in the chorus, which we did!

The raffle and Tombola Stall did very well indeed as did the bar and the Faith Supper provided a lovely variety of food. Altogether it was great fun.

Thank you Mike, Jill and all your numerous helpers who made it such a great night.  
Brenda Craddock



*Dancers enjoying the music of the band*



Windy Gyle Band led by Anthony Robb (playing fiddle on left). He has been a leading light in Northumbrian piping circles for over 40 years, both as a performer and teacher. This has taken him to America, Austria, Germany, Ireland and New Zealand. Three times co-director of Folkworks Adult Summer School, he teaches pipes on the Folk Degree at Newcastle University and is a regular pipes tutor at The Sage Gateshead.

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# LANCHESTER FLOWER CLUB

**'All Things Bright and Beautiful'**

We held our first meeting after the summer break in Lanchester Community Centre on Wednesday 23rd September. The guest demonstrator was Katie-Jane Pridmore, her theme was 'All Things Bright and Beautiful'. Her colourful and very different arrangements were certainly bright and beautiful and she regaled us with some lovely stories, even telling us about her wedding plans for next year. Katie-Jane is one of the youngest demonstrators we have

seen in a long time and her enthusiasm and skill were outstanding. We all feel she is a new and innovative demonstrator to be reckoned with and we are quite sure her name will be heard around the world. It was so refreshing seeing someone so young with such enthusiasm for her flowers and the skill in which she produced such wonderful arrangements. Everyone had a lovely relaxing afternoon and of course all arrangements were raffled to the delight of the winners.



*Katie-Jane Pridmore with some of her beautiful arrangements.*

## LIZARDS FARM NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME



*Karen Turner, from Lizards Farm, with Grace Young, perusing wildlife in the lake.*

Peter Robinson and Trust, Parkinsons, Karen Turner from Lizards Farm, Lanchester, held two open days for the National Garden Scheme raising £1100 for the following charities: Macmillan, Marie Curie, Hospice UK, Carers Trust, Qni, National day.



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## SATLEY WI



*Satley WI birthday night and centenary celebrations. Back row, left to right: Pat Gibson, Freda Scott, Aldwyn Anderson. Front row: Irene Cockram, Audrey Flannigan, Grace Hall.*

On 12th October, we celebrated our 67th birthday and the Centenary of the WI movement with a party. Pat Gibson, our President, welcomed past Presidents along with Audrey Flannigan from the County and guest members from other WI groups.

We had a sit-down supper provided by Fiona of Crinnions, which was beautifully presented and enjoyed by all. Each table's centrepiece was an amazing floral handbag display made by our

member, Linda Butterfield. A number draw then awarded one lucky person from each table to win the arrangement to take home. This was followed by entertainment provided by the fantastic 'Just Us', a group of very talented singers and musicians. They performed with ukuleles and included in their act jokes and stories. We all sang and clapped along to familiar songs. Great fun was had by all, elating our spirits and a perfect ending to a very enjoyable evening.

## THREAT TO SMALLHOPE BURN



*The photograph has been taken from the bridge at The King's Head, as an example of the text. Many others photographs could have been taken along Smallhope Burn.*

Long time village resident and former Parish Councillor, Michael Carr, has brought to the attention of The Village Voice, the situation regarding Smallhope Burn and other waterways in the vicinity of the village. It would appear that there will be a major risk of flooding again if action is not taken soon. There is an enormous amount of Himalayan Balsam, also known as Indian Balsam, Jumping Jack and Policeman's Helmet, related to the Busy Lizzie family, on the banks and in Smallhope

Burn. The botanical name is *Impatiens glandulifera*. This plant, introduced to the UK in 1859, is now rampant in many rivers and streams nationwide. It grows to a height of about two to three metres and each plant expels up to 2500 seeds per pod. It is purplish pink in colour, sometimes but rarely white. It grows in moist soil anywhere, but particularly on river banks. It encroaches down the sides of the banks into the river, as our photograph shows. It tolerates low water levels, shades out other

vegetation, impoverishing habitats.

It can be controlled by pulling out or cutting. Chemicals may be used but only after contacting the Environment Agency for approval. Although introduced as a flower all those years ago it is now considered an alien weed, rampant, particularly in Smallhope Burn which could eventually affect the village. This is a nationwide problem. In Somerset, 'Friends of the River Frome' has been formed to try to alleviate this problem.

On a lighter but pertinent note, the next Duck Race to be organised, probably next year in aid of Willow Burn, may well be ruined, or even cancelled, as the burn is gradually getting clogged up with this outrageously uncontrolled plant. Hopefully, the relevant authorities will learn of this serious problem and do something about it quickly during the next few months.

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*A difficult task for the judges.*

Lanchester Community Centre rang with excited barking and human chatter as over 40 dogs brought their owners to the Fun Dog Show. It was Sunday, September 27th and Lanchester Partnership supported this excellent venture. At the helm was Mavis Datta, well known for her love of dogs and her many attendances with her dog at shows.

The atmosphere was warm and friendly as dogs and their humans mingled. There had been a great deal of careful planning to ensure everything went smoothly and refreshments were readily available.

There were 14 classes represented in the Show. Besides the Pedigree categories, there was a distinct 'fun' element, with dogs with the waggiest tail, the most handsome dog, the canine with the saddest expression and the dog the Judge would most like to take home. All of the animals were obviously greatly loved by their families and shown with great pride. Judges were Denise Mascaglio, breeder, exhibitor and judge of champion boxers and Margaret Kay, of Lilydale pet shop. It was a fun day and over £200 was raised for the village bus. Mavis Datta expresses her gratitude to everyone



*Lady, Seamus and Sherlock wait for judging.*



*Best in show with owner, Reserve Best in show with owner and the judges.*

involved, the judges, the stewards, all who helped in so many ways and of course many thanks to all the dog lovers whose interest and support ensured this was such an enjoyable day. Mavis has received many supportive comments, with requests that the show is repeated next year. Hopefully this will appear again in Lanchester's events calendar, as a great treat for anyone who loves animals!



# EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES AT ALL SAINTS' SCHOOL



*Year 5 investigated how the Dutch language was quite similar to English and had a lot of fun with their work!*



*A French lesson for Year 2, working on our vocabulary.*

Friday September 25th was European Day of Languages, a day jointly organised by the Council of Europe and the European Union in order to encourage language learning across Europe. The students of All Saints' Catholic Primary School approached the event with enthusiasm. Each class decided on a country they were going to research and were invited to come into school wearing the colours of that nation.

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# THURSDAY CLUB COFFEE MORNING

On 1st October, a very frosty but sunny morning, we held our second coffee morning of the year in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance. By 10.30 it was standing room only and with the sun streaming through the windows everyone was in a jolly mood. The room was buzzing with laughter and chatter while friends caught up with each other and enjoyed a tea/coffee with scrumptious cakes and scones. It was also good to see some fine gentlemen from the village joining in. The Raffle and Tombola tables were heavily laden with super prizes and we would like to



*Members enjoying tea, cake, scones and of course chat.*

thank the following businesses for their generous sponsorship: Crinnions, Christine Emerson, Ray Emmerton

Greengrocer, Gallery Gift Shop and Lilydale Pet Supplies. Our thanks also to those who gave donations and, finally, to

all of you who came along and spent your pennies on the raffle/tombola. We hope you all enjoyed yourselves. We are very

lucky in Lanchester village to have such a generous and caring community who not only help us but many other fund raising events. The coffee morning raised approximately £408, (we still have a little more to come in), and together with the £356.90 raised in March we will be sending a cheque to The Great North Air Ambulance in the region of £764.90. Once again, on behalf of this very good cause, we thank you all. Please make a note in your 2016 diary - our next coffee morning is 3rd March, usual time, usual place - when we hope we can again look forward to your continued support.

## THE THURSDAY CLUB

At our September meeting we welcomed Barry Peacock who recently 'retired' from Lanchester Dairies after 20 years. Barry talked about the history of the dairies over those years. Not only was the talk informative and amusing but also extremely interesting. A family business believing in loyal staff, hard work, steady growth and a management work ethic

of not asking anyone to do anything they were not prepared to do themselves. This same loyalty also extends to and from the NE farmers who supply the milk, the customers who buy their produce (be they large, medium, or your milkman) to the local companies who supply the poly bottles, fuel and tyres to paper clips. Quite a rarity in this day and age.

We were, however, a little disappointed to learn that ice cream is no longer produced at the dairies so, as not to go home feeling deprived, we bought some, gave Barry a portion and asked for his opinion - mm, this is good. When you pick up your next 'Pinta' remember your local farmers, Lanchester Dairies and the local economy. After indulging in our ice cream, a most

enjoyable evening ended with tea/coffee/biscuits and a good catch-up chat. In recent months we have been pleased to welcome an influx of new members and a few visitors trying us out - so if you fancy a night out in convivial company please give us a go. Check out our monthly posters for details or What's On in the Village Voice. Membership subscriptions are due in

January for the coming year and will remain at £12. Our New Year party is on 21st January and is open to old members and new alike. If you would like to come please let us know for catering purposes. Telephone: Olive 520229, Eileen 529104 or Liz 521682. Entertainment is provided by our Drama/Concert Party Group.



*After listening to Barry Peacock's interesting talk on the history of Lanchester Dairies, our ladies indulged themselves in some ice cream.*



# LANCHESTER WI'S AGM

Eight visitors joined us for our AGM on 5th October. It was a busy evening, with topics to discuss, an entertaining speaker and a lovely cake to share, in celebration of our 90th birthday. President Jennifer Macdonald opened the meeting, welcoming members and spoke of the many events which had taken place recently. There was a warm letter of thanks from Margaret Musgrave in recognition of contributions made to the British Red Cross. Several outings and meetings are planned in the near future and we look forward to our birthday outing to Eshott Hall in early November.

Reports were made regarding our various groups, with Quiz meetings resuming after the King's Head refurbishment. Marie announced a visit to the glass gallery in Medomsley and it was agreed that we should sponsor a tree to decorate for the Christmas Tree Festival, whose proceeds will be donated to Willow Burn Hospice.

We then settled back to meet Ingrid Sylvestre, the 'Giraffe Lady'. She described how she became fascinated by these animals, began writing books, illustrating them and producing wonderful cards, all showing the creatures

living life in 'Giraffe World'. A most entertaining and amusing story!

Treasurer Angela Velleman reported a healthy bank balance in our account. This is Angela's final report, as she is handing over to Tracy Dobson. Secretary June Wallis recounted the many events over the past year and looked forward to another busy and successful year. As June is also retiring, this was her final report. Jennifer Macdonald retires as President and she thanked the committee and members for their support in making Lanchester an enthusiastic and forward looking organisation. Marie Murphy now serves as President. Raffle winners were Pauline Griggs and Gladys Gibbon, with Ann Clark and Jennifer

Macdonald successful in the competition. Ann was also awarded the Nancy Walker cup as overall competition winner for the year. We shared a lovely 90th birthday cake baked by Janis Suddes. WI Advisor Audrey Dinning talked about WI Resolutions over the

years, striving to make a better future for all. This was a sad evening, with several colleagues stepping down, but they will stay as valued members and we thank them for their hard work. We also look forward to the future as a thriving branch.

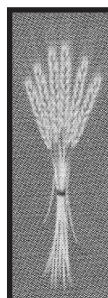


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Speaker Ingrid Sylvestre displays her beautiful scarf, illustrated with giraffes, naturally!



President Jennifer Macdonald cuts our 90th birthday cake.

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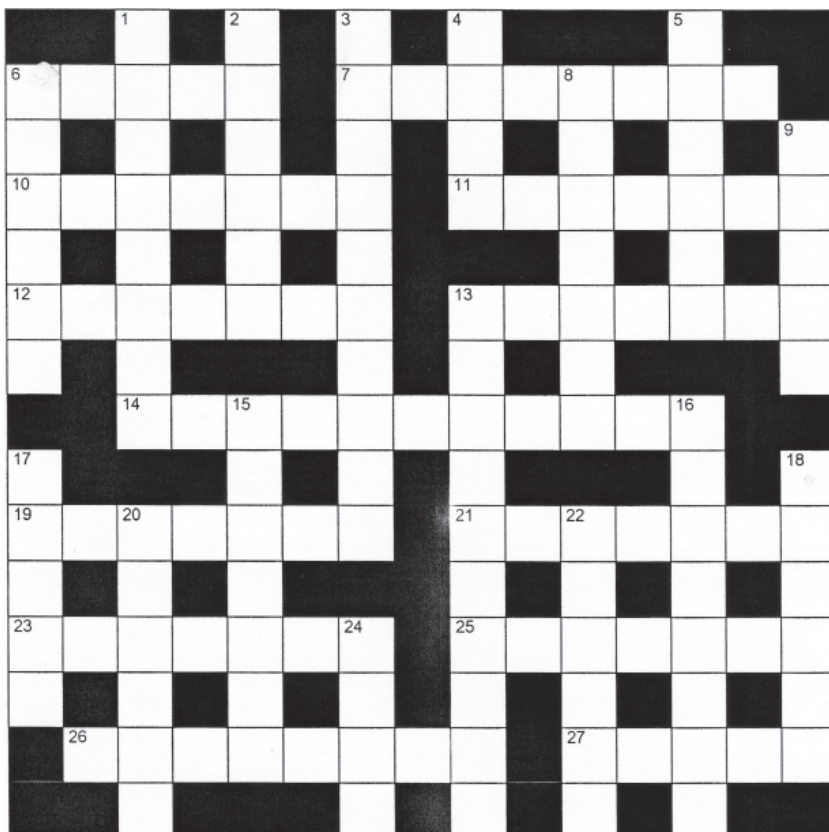
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# CROSSWORD 114



## ACROSS

6. Unit of energy (5)
7. Reformed nutter in food ingredient (8)
10. Knees-up (7)
11. Annul (7)
12. Flyer (7)
13. Lift (7)
14. Sociable (11)
19. Overwhelm (7)
21. Capital of Armenia (7)
23. Very thirsty (7)
25. City at one end of the old Iron Curtain (7)
26. Unabridged (8)
27. Run away from Penelope (5)

## DOWN

1. Consider in miniature (8)
2. — Mint Cake (6)
3. Kind hot hog title (10)
4. Agitate (4)
5. Sharp pain comes from point again (6)
6. Push and shove (6)
8. View (7)
9. Goodbye from mad i.e. unhinged people (5)
13. Alternate (5,5)
15. Enhance (5-2)
16. Goes with army, long and parliamentary (8)
17. Eat up colour (5)
18. How to relieve nasal irritation (6)
20. Lethargy (6)
22. Someone who rants and raves (6)
24. Consider (4)

## ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 113

### ACROSS

9. give the game away
10. gudgeon
12. expunge
13. distiller
14. poise
15. another
18. enrages
21. abets
23. semantics (apologies for the extra letter in the clue)
25. hackles
26. dwindle
29. music to one's ears

### DOWN

1. agog
2. avid
3. steepish
4. fennel
5. carefree
6. keep up
7. swinging
8. Pyrenees
11. union
15. anathema
16. overcast
17. resistor
19. runniest
20. excel
22. splice
24. Medina
27. drab
28. ease

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your entries (by deadline date on back page) to The Village Voice, c/o Lanchester Community Centre, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester, DH7 0HY.

## LAST MONTH'S SUDOKU ANSWER

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| 8 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 8 |
| 2 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 5 |
| 1 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| 5 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 1 |
| 4 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 9 |
| 3 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 7 |
| 9 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 3 |

## CROSSWORD 113

There were 12 entries in last month's crossword competition. Congratulations to Jill Ramsay of Percy Crescent who was the winner in the draw and will receive the £10 prize.

## SUDOKU

There is just one simple rule in Sudoku. Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box. See next month for answers.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   | 9 |   |   | 6 |   |   |   |
| 8 |   | 5 | 1 |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   | 5 |   | 3 | 7 |
| 4 |   |   |   |   |   | 1 | 8 |   |
|   |   | 1 | 4 |   | 9 |   |   |   |
| 6 |   |   | 5 |   |   |   |   |   |
| 3 |   |   | 7 |   |   |   |   | 2 |
|   | 7 |   |   | 3 |   |   |   |   |
|   |   | 4 |   |   | 8 | 5 |   |   |

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## CRICKET NEWS

The end of September saw the presentation night for both juniors and seniors and a good turnout saw the following winners:

### Under 11s

Batting - Charlie McPhail  
Bowling - Dan Scott  
Fielding - Jack Morris  
Most Improved - Ethan Connelly  
Player of the Year - Dan Scott

### Under 13s

Batting - James Kime  
Bowling - Jack Morris  
Fielding - Simon Kime  
Most Improved - David Barnett  
Player of the Year - Tristan Somersall

### Under 15s

Batting - Mattie Butler  
Bowling - Tristan Somersall  
Fielding - David Barnett  
Player of the Year - Francis Guthrie

### Under 18s

Batting - Greg Patterson  
Bowling - Greg Patterson

Fielding - Mattie Butler  
Player of the Year - Greg Patterson  
Most Improved - Tristan Somersall  
Junior Personality - David Killeen

### Firsts

Batting - Graham Brinton  
Bowling - Greg Halliday  
Fielding - Kieron Taylor  
Player of the Year - Kieron Taylor

### Seconds

Batting - Mark Small  
Bowling - Mark Dobson  
Fielding - Mark Small  
Player of the Year - Mark Small

### Thirds

Batting - Jonathon Dodds  
Bowling - Alan McPhail  
Fielding - Michael Butler  
Player of the Year - Chris Tully

## HARRY'S PYJAMA PARTY



*Unfortunately for the Keep Fit class held at Croft View, Harry, the coach, had to inform them that the class would have to be moved from 9.30 am to 8.30 am. As a wind up for Harry, all members of the class turned up in pyjamas and onesies. What a great bit of fun and super picture.*

## LADIES WHO LUNCH

Not far from here in the small village of Tanfield is a gorgeous café and gift shop to be found in a converted pub - a lovely old quirky building which is an absolute delight to behold. Just right for Christmas shopping, or any other kind of shopping really and then, when the retail therapy has been completely satisfied, there's the food! We were there on a beautiful sunshiny autumnal day and the place was full to bursting but fortunately we did find a seat. The staff are super and the place does have a delightful owner. The menu isn't extensive but there is plenty to satisfy lunchtime hunger pangs. We sampled Pan Haggerty with a caramelised onion topping (totally scrumptious) and Brie, bacon and caramelised onion quiche with salad, wedges and coleslaw. This was followed by

lemon and ginger cheesecake sprinkled in snow with clotted cream ice cream, lemon drizzle cake and honeycomb tiffin with clotted cream all washed down with tea/coffee or latte/cappuccino. Milk for drinks comes in individual baby milk churns. All the food was quite delicious and we had a super lunchtime - not far and an interesting place to visit.

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# WHAT'S ON?

## Paradiso Social Club

The next Social will be held on Sunday November 8th, in the Main Hall of the Community Centre at 7 pm, with the usual raffle, refreshments and the opportunity to see the film PRIDE.

Based on an extraordinary true story, PRIDE tells how a group of London-based gay and lesbian activists raised money to support the families of miners during the strike of 1984. Identifying a mining village in Wales, they set off to make their donation in person, and in so doing inspired "The Best British film in Years".

"Uplifting, Joyous and heartbreaking".

All are welcome.

Entry:

£2.50 members

£3.50 occasional visitors

£2 young persons

Entry ticket covers raffle, refreshments and film.

## Sunday Bridge

Are you a Bridge player? If you are why don't you come along to the Community Centre on Sunday 1st November at 2.00 pm for an enjoyable afternoon of Bridge. The entrance fee is £3.00 and all profits go to the Community Centre.

## Computers4All

During November the Computers 4 All team at the Community Centre will focus on letter writing tips, personal, formal/informal and business (Mondays), how to use print preferences on Thursdays.

## Wildlife Group

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 10th November at 7.30 pm in the Community Centre Dining Room. The subject will be 'Harvest Mice' with Ian Bond.

## Short Circuit Walks

Venue: **East Rainton & Pittington**

Date: November 7th

OS Ref: NZ335477

DH5 9SB

Miles: 5

Leader: Edna Hunter & Friends

Phone: 01913889570

An easy walk through the pleasant countryside with panoramic views over Low Pittington and beyond. Meet adjacent to St Cuthbert's Church, Quarry House Lane, East Rainton on A690.

### Annual General Meeting

at Quaker Meeting House, West Avenue. Gosforth 2pm on November 14th,

Venue: **Witton/Langley Park and Ushaw College.**

Date: November 21st

OS Ref: NZ216462

DH7 6TW

Miles: 5.3

Leader: Stan Smith

Phone: 07591824746

Exploring the mining villages of Durham and a monastic site. Includes a couple of steepish ascents but then flattowards Esh village. From A167 turn west at Framwellgate Moor onto A691 A roundabout signed Langley Park turn left to village. Turn left on entering village, cross bridge over river to car park 100 yds on right near old station.

All walks start at 10.30 am.

## PACT meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 3th November at 6.30 pm at Burnhope Primary School.

## Community Centre

The Community Centre will be holding a coffee morning on Thursday 12th November from 9.30 - 11 am.

### Christmas Fair

7th November 10am until 2pm. Over 25 stalls full of wonderful Christmas ideas, plus refreshments.

## Willow Burn Christmas Cracker

Our Willow Burn Christmas Fair will once again be held at St Bede's School, Lanchester. However you'll notice one big difference - the time. This year's Fair will be held from 1 pm - 4 pm but the usual variety of stalls will be on offer to tempt you. Raffle tickets are now on sale and can be bought from our retail stores in Stanley, Consett and Chester le Street and of course Willow Burn itself. However, if you would like to sell any tickets on our behalf or would like any posting out to you please call Elaine on 01207523903. We also have a larger variety of external stores this year to celebrate homemade and local produce including driftwood art, handmade cards, wooden toys and chutneys. Of course, the usual tombola, Santa's Grotto, handmade cakes/pies and raffle will be on offer. Please join us on Saturday 21st November at 1 pm - 4 pm and support your local hospice. We look forward to seeing you!

## Local History Society

Subject: The History of Maling Pottery

Speaker: David Balls

Date: 6th November 2015

Time: 7 pm

Venue: Lanchester Community Centre.

A warm welcome and invitation to hear David Balls talk on this North East pottery. Everyone is invited to bring along a piece of Maling for comments by David, though he will not offer valuations.

Refreshments will be served. Visitors are always very welcome.

Exciting new programme of talks are planned into 2016.

Subscriptions are due.

## Lanchester Library

The library offers **Songs and Stories** on Thursday afternoons from 2-3 pm. All children under 5 years are welcome.

## Village Voice AGM

The Annual General Meeting of Lanchester Publications Ltd will be held at 7.00 pm on Sunday 15th November in the Dining Room of Lanchester Community Centre. All members of the public are welcome.

## Lanchester Flower Club

The next meeting will be the second of our Open Meetings to be held on Friday evening on the 27th November 2015 at 7 pm in Lanchester Community Centre in the Main Hall. The Demonstrator will be John Dalton and his theme will be 'The Holly and the Ivy'. He is a very well-known demonstrator and I am sure we will be guaranteed a most enjoyable evening. Everyone is welcome. Please contact Helen Tomlinson on 503667, Lestrine Kelly on 521494 or Norma Jenssen on 520574 should you require a ticket, cost is £7 which includes tea/coffee and light refreshments.

## Taizé Worship

Taizé Worship will take place at All Saints' Parish Church on Sunday 8th November at 6.00 pm. If you would like to come and practise the Taizé chants please come to church on Thursday evening, 5th November for an hour, beginning at 6.00 pm. All are welcome.

## Vintage Tractor Club

Meet on Wednesday 4th November at 7.30 pm in Lanchester Social Club.

## Lanchester WI

There will be no meeting on Monday November 2nd, as that is the date of our outing to celebrate our 90th Birthday. We will leave from the Green School layby at 9.30 am, stopping for coffee at the Milkhope Centre, on the Blagdon Estate. We'll then set off to Eshott Hall for lunch and a cookery demonstration. We expect to return home in the early evening, after what is sure to be an interesting and enjoyable day.

## Lanchester Social Club

Saturday 7th November  
**Angie**, Great Vocalist  
Sunday 8th November  
**Sunday Night Buskers**  
Saturday 14th November  
**Peter Kelly**, Male Vocalist of the year  
Sunday 15th November  
**Sunday Night Buskers**  
Saturday 21st November  
**Simon Caine**, Vocal Entertainer  
Sunday 22nd November  
**Sunday Night Buskers**  
Saturday 28th November  
**Sue Cassidy**, First Class Vocalist  
Sunday 29th November  
**Sunday Night Buskers**

## Country Market

The next market will take place on Saturday 7th November from 10 am until 12 noon in the Methodist Church.

## Thursday Club

Thursday 19th November is our outing to the Duke of Wellington and then onto Durham High School for Girls for the Flower Demonstration. The coach will leave from opposite Cooplands Bakers at 3.45 pm. See you there. Please note there will be no meeting in the Community Centre.



## Parish Church Autumn Fair

The Lanchester and Burnhope Parish Fair will take place at the Community Centre on Saturday November 28th from 10.00am-12.00noon. Admission is free, refreshments cost £1.00. Free drink and treat for children. Attractions include: Grand Raffle, Tombola, Bottle Tombola, Homemade Cakes and Savouries, Jams and Preserves, Hand Crafted Goods, Christmas Decorations, Jewellery and Toiletries, Wives Red, Gold and Silver Christmas Stall and Traidcraft. Everyone welcome. Please support the Parish Churches

## Junior/Family Wildlife Group

Sunday 15th November. Meet at 10.00 am in Community Centre carpark. Walk towards Hurbuck. You don't have to have children to join us.

## Lanchester Sings

Following the success of the inaugural concert last year the members of the local Red Cross are organising another concert. Entitled 'Lanchester Sings', it is an evening of Christmas music and carols in the village Methodist Church at 7.00 pm on Friday 11th December. The performers will include a choir from EP Primary School and an ensemble of the Lanchester Brass Band who will perform individually and also invite the audience to join them in singing well known songs and carols. Tickets are £6 for adults and £3 for accompanied children under 13 years old and will be available from the village Red Cross shop from 1st November. All proceeds will be used to fund the work of the Red Cross in caring for people in crisis.

## Satley WI

On 9th November we will have our **AGM**, followed by refreshments. On 14th December there will be a craft evening with Lesley Jerard, followed by a Faith Supper. The competition will be a 'Small Christmas Decoration'. New members and visitors are always welcome to our meetings on the second Monday of the month in the Village Hall Satley at 7.15pm.

## Mothers' Union

The next meeting is on 11th November, 7.30pm in the Chapter House and is the annual Wave of Prayer service.

## Lanchester Playgroup

Monday 2nd November - Playgroup returns after the half-term break. Friday 6th November - A photographer will be coming to Playgroup to take individual portrait photos for those who wish to have them taken.

## Open House

Join us in the Chapter House of the Parish Church on Thursday 5th November 11.30 am to 1.00 pm for a light lunch.

Friday 20th November - 'Frozen' Theme Session at Playgroup. Saturday 21st November - Coffee Morning in aid of Playgroup at Lanchester Methodist Church 10-12. Cake and Craft Stalls.



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## WORLD SAILING SUCCESS



*Daniel Trotter on the podium, third in the World Championships.*

Daniel Trotter, aged 22, former pupil at St Bede's RC Lanchester, has achieved 3rd overall in the Musto Skiff World Championships held in Lake Garda, Italy, 14th - 20th September. In the sailing world this is a much sought-after accolade. Daniel, son of Ian and Julie Trotter, grandson of the late Barry and Dorothy Trotter and Len and Joan Blades, took his proud place on the podium on Sunday 20th September and we're all very proud of his achievement. He has followed in his father's footsteps as a keen member of the Derwent Sailing Club. I'm sure there'll be much celebration at the club. Well done Dan! Karen Patterson

## PETH BANK HILL CLIMB



*Fifty five members of the Cestria Cycling Club from Chester le Street met at the Community Centre in readiness to race up Peth Bank. The average time it took was about 5 minutes. This year the record was 4 minutes with one of the riders reducing the previous record by 18 seconds. The club members spend much of their time hill climbing at the various hills within the North East Region. Our photograph shows some of the riders who had just returned to the Centre after the event.*

## TENNIS SEASON ENDS ON A BRIGHT NOTE!

Another successful summer season of tennis came to a close at the end of September for Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club, but not before the victorious 2014/15 junior winter league winners were presented with the league trophy at a ceremony at the Stadium of Light in Sunderland. Players Zoe Brown and Daniel Smailes represented the club and, as the photograph shows,

were extremely pleased about it. As ever the weather played its part but members were able to enjoy a full programme of play, competition and social events throughout the year, the highlights being the Great British Tennis weekend in May and the Barbeque and Strawberry Tea. Congratulations to all the tournament winners in 2015 and for those who

didn't win, better luck next year. 'Touch Tennis' is restarting indoors at St Bede's on Tuesday evenings from 20th October at 7 pm. The Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 15th November in the clubhouse at 10 am. Any club information can be obtained from the Secretary on 01207 520278.



*2014/15 Junior Winter League winners, smiling Zoe Brown and Daniel Smailes with the trophy.*

## NEXT DEADLINE

Please send any **articles** for the next edition of the Village Voice by Tuesday 17th November. The deadline for **adverts** is 15th November.

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